

**Idaho State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Office
Quarterly Report
April – June 2003**

NATIONAL REGISTER

The State Historic Sites Review Board held a joint meeting with the Certified Local Governments representatives on April 4, 2003. The Board reviewed and approved three nominations: the Spud Drive-In Theater (Driggs, Teton County); the Citizens' State Bank (Buhl, Twin Falls County); and the Wood River Center Grange No. 87 (Shoshone, Lincoln County). The Spud has subsequently been listed in the National Register, and we still await word about the others.

The meeting included a morning workshop for the CLGs organized by Ann Swanson where Tricia and Don presented information about the NRHP and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. Review Board members were in attendance and were able to provide additional insights. The formal Review Board meeting was then attended in the afternoon by the CLGs who were able to see the process in action.

Mary Anne toured the Ophir Creek Chinese site PIT project with Stan McDonald (BLM) and Will Reed (Boise NF) in June. They agreed on a management plan for Centerville, and the formation of a Chinese archaeological district that will aid in managing historic properties in the Boise Basin. Both agencies will contribute in preparing the National Register district nomination.

SURVEY AND INVENTORY

Several cultural resource reports have been submitted this quarter, but the information has not been added to the database. Kelley Green has been working furiously entering last year's survey data. A total of 777 archaeological sites were added to the state inventory.

Accessions to the Idaho Historic Sites Inventory (IHSI) during this final quarter of State fiscal year 2003, total 125 properties and represent both intensive- and reconnaissance-level survey activity. A majority of the properties recorded and accessioned this quarter were, again, the result of Section 106 activities. There continues to be a sizeable backlog of site records, survey reports, and other miscellaneous records. However, progress is being made daily. One particularly comprehensive survey undertaken in the north end of Boise recorded approximately 1,300 properties (this figure obviously is not represented in this current report as accessions have not yet been completed). Finally, all HABS/HAER documents as well as Idaho Historic Properties Record (IHDR) documents have now been accessioned and are retrievable.

Don met with Dale Gray and Julie Archambeault several times during this quarter for the Idaho Historic Bridge Survey (a TEA-21 project). Dale reports that the survey portion (field work) has been completed, and the final push is on to complete the context.

ADMINISTRATION

Senator Mike Crapo signed a “Dear Colleague” letter requesting \$50 million for State Historic Preservation Offices in FY2004. This figure is a marked increase from the \$34 million the states received in FY2003. The letter will be sent to the Senate Appropriations Committee. In mid-June, the House Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations approved a bill providing level funding (\$34 million) to the states. Although money is tight this year, SHPOs are hopeful that the “Dear Colleague” letter will convince the Senate to fully fund preservation efforts at home. Thanks go to Senator Crapo!

The Governor recognized the partnership in historic preservation between the Idaho SHPO and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) by honoring both agencies with a “Take Pride in Idaho” award.

IDPR also received an Orchid Award from the Idaho Historic Preservation Council for their new preservation program. The nomination was prepared by the Idaho SHPO.

Ken and Suzi worked with Myron Johnson of Idaho State Parks & Recreation to finalize an encumbrance of \$135,000 for SHPO to complete historical and archaeological surveys of projects within state parks, or hire consultants to do so, in this fiscal year. This funding can also be used as match for the SHPO’s HPF grant.

The SHPO, now lacking a receptionist, installed a more elaborate answering system for our phone lines. The new system is already helping with the high number of phone calls the office receives daily and satisfies the public who want direct access to voice mail.

CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

As noted above, a workshop was held for members of local historic preservation commissions in conjunction with the Idaho Historic Sites Review Board. About 15 communities were represented. The morning session dealt with the National Register of Historic Places and the criteria for listing. In the afternoon, members of HPCs observed the deliberations of the Review Board. The next day, a field trip along the Oregon Trail illustrated the difficulties in nominating linear sites. A visit to the 1951 heating plant at the Old Pen addressed issues with more recent properties.

TAX ACT PROGRAM

Thanks to the generosity of the National Park Service, Don was able to attend the Tax Incentives Workshop held in New Orleans in June. This was the largest such workshop

ever attended with 41 states represented and virtually all NPS tax act program staff. Major program updates and information were received.

Applications received/processed/sent to NPS:

Parts 1 and 2, Northrup Residence, Boise; Part 1 Northrup Residence certified by NPS.

Don provided technical assistance to architects and developers of the Northrup Residence rehab project above.

Don conducted a Tax Act training workshop in Pocatello in May.

PLANNING

Don was reinstated as a member of the Enhancement Advisory Committee for the TEA-21 program under the Idaho Transportation Department and participated in the selection meeting in April.

Suzi and Don reviewed a historic properties management plan for architectural properties at the INEEL.

Suzi, Don, and Tricia reviewed a historic properties management plan for the Army National Guard at Gowen Field.

REVIEW AND COMPLIANCE

Many projects have been reviewed under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, but the information has not been added to the databases yet. Kelley Green has been busy entering last year's survey data.

Steve Guerber attended a "Wings and Roots: Native American Campfire" meeting at Mountain Home Air Force Base to discuss on-going issues about tribal opposition to archaeology at the new Training Range.

Suzi and Don met with representatives of Bechtel to discuss the "accelerated" clean-up of facilities at the INEEL. Most of the buildings and structures at the INEEL are eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The site-wide demolition program will require substantial mitigation and review by SHPO and NPS.

In April, Suzi, Glenda, and Travis met with Dan, Julie, Pam, and Dennis Clark (ITD) to discuss ways to decrease the complexity of reviewing transportation reports with multiple alternates. Instead of one, large and cumbersome report with multiple alternatives, it was agreed that each alternative would be submitted and reviewed individually. Also discussed at the meeting was the need for an agreement between ITD and SHPO that would require all state funded ITD projects to be reviewed under Section 106.

Travis reviewed 33 transportation projects, 7 Corps of Engineers projects, 16 cell tower projects, 3 Idaho Parks and Rec. projects, and 4 Idaho Department of Lands projects. Digitization of the Oregon Trail for BLM is ongoing.

Don conducted technical assistance meetings with the architects for the New Meadows railroad depot rehab project (a TEA-21 and ICDBG project).

In April, Mary Anne completed the review of a Programmatic Agreement for management of heritage properties in the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness. This document commits the USFS to prepare a management plan and begin inventory and monitoring programs that have been neglected since 1986. Signature is expected in July (was signed 7/3/03).

Ken made field inspections of archaeological undertakings at East Kamiah and Mile Post 31 on the lower Clearwater, and at a potential historic burial site on the California Trail at Blackfoot Reservoir where emigrants were ambushed in the early 1850s.

Mary Anne met with Chris Jenkins, new Forest Archaeologist for the Clearwater NF, in June to discuss recordation requirements and management of the forest heritage program. They then attended the dedication of the Lolo Pass Visitor Center.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Suzi and Tricia traveled to Harriman State Park to meet with representatives from the National Park Service, the University of Oregon preservation program, and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation to begin planning the August 2004 Preservation Field School. The field has been held for nine years at various historic sites in Oregon, Washington, and northern California. The 2004 field school will be the first one held in Idaho. Although it will focus on building preservation projects at Harriman, it will also include components on archaeology and other aspects of preservation. Bringing this program to Idaho will greatly benefit the outstanding historic properties at Harriman and throughout the State Parks system by providing training to Park's maintenance and management personnel. IDPR paid for most of SHPO's travel expenses.

Suzi attended the annual meeting of the George Wright Society in San Diego, CA, in April. The meeting is an opportunity for National Park Service (NPS) to report on their efforts to manage natural and cultural resources within their jurisdiction. The National Conference of SHPOs received an award for their partnership with NPS. NPS paid Suzi's registration and travel expenses.

Suzi, Tricia, and Ken provided cultural resource training in Coeur d'Alene to State Parks' employees. IDPR supported travel expenses. Ken made field inspections of IDPR undertakings at Winchester and Mary McCroskey State Parks while coming and going.

Suzi and Larry traveled with Lewis and Clark Governor's committee members Anne Schorzman and Ruthann Caylor to the dedication of both the Lolo Pass Visitors' Center and a monument honoring Steven Ambrose.

Mary Anne attended the annual Project Archaeology conference in April at Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. State coordinators for each state working on or using Project Archaeology attended. The focus this year was to review the new *Intrigue of the Past* curriculum and provide solutions to problem areas.

Tricia gave two presentations to the Honors History classes at North Junior High.

Tricia gave a presentation in Cambridge as part of Idaho Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month.

On May 12, as part of Archaeology/Preservation Month, Glenda gave a presentation at the Boise Public Library on the plants observed and collected by Lewis and Clark.

Don made a presentation of Idaho's Unique Historic Resources at the Egyptian Theater in May for Preservation Month.

Ken gave a lecture on Snake River prehistory at the Boise Public Library in May to a large and inquisitive audience.

Early in June, Ken and four other scientists spent a week rafting down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River with 23 professional river guides, reviewing the canyon's ethnography, prehistory, geology, botany, wildlife biology, and the status of the salmon fishery. The goal was to educate the guides so they can more effectively interface with the recreational public. The floating seminar was extremely successful and plans are underway to repeat it each summer, with perhaps alternate tours in Hells Canyon and the Middle Fork.

Mary Anne gave a presentation on Project Archaeology, IAS Millennium Survey, and Archaeology and Preservation Month at the annual BLM Idaho State heritage meeting on May 12-13.

Review continues on the Idaho Project Archaeology book, and a draft is expected anytime.

By all accounts, *Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month* was very successful. Donations totaled ~\$6,500.00 with additional in-kind support of \$500.00. Costs rose due to problems with the bulk mail and return mail costs. These problems will be solved before next year's mailing. The theme for 2004 will focus on Lewis and Clark, and Jim Ronda has agreed to give a presentation in Boise. The proclamation was signed at the Alexander house by Lt. Governor Rishe on May 1st. First Lady Patricia Kempthorne also spoke at the event.

Mary Anne and Darley von Vandegriff, DAR State Regent, rewrote text for the DAR Glade Creek Plaque display at Lolo Pass Visitor Center. The DAR Historian General overruled the DAR Historian and approval of the text and re-dedication is expected in July. Diana Jones at the Clearwater NF has been extraordinary in her assistance and designed the display at no cost to the DAR. The display will be completed this summer/fall.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY

The annual meeting of the ASI has been scheduled for the fall meeting of the Idaho Advisory Council of Professional Archaeologists in Boise in October.

In June, at the request of former State Archaeologist Robert Yohe, Travis revisited Diversion Dam Cave to collect plant samples for Glenda to identify. Robert has obtained surprisingly early (late Pleistocene) radiocarbon ages on plant materials sampled during last year's test excavations.

Mary Anne met with a Dubois, Idaho, landowner in May to plan a SHPO/IAS survey for endangered archaeological sites on his property. Last year, a looter offered to excavate on his land and share the "finds." He refused and contacted SHPO.

Ken conferred with Dr. Jerry Galm of Eastern Washington University in May over contributors, editorial guidelines, and submission deadlines for the *festschrift* volume dedicated to the archaeological career of Trustee Max G. Pavesic.

PERSONNEL

MaRyah Barton left SHPO at the end of this quarter.

Cameron Ross Pitkin, Beth and Travis' second child, arrived on June 23rd. Congratulations to the Pitkins!

Mary Anne was on medical leave from June 3-16 and was the most miserable she has ever been in her life.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

SHPO gratefully acknowledges another generous cash donation from Trustee Gene Place.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Historic Preservation Division Administrator